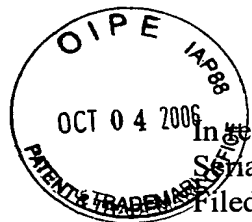


2FW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Michael John O'Loughlin et al.

Confirmation No.: 1454

Serial No.: 10/790,406

Group Art Unit: 1765

Filed: March 1, 2004

Examiner: D. Deo

For: **REDUCTION OF CARROT DEFECTS IN SILICON CARBIDE EPITAXY**

Date: October 2, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants provide the present Amendment to address the issue raised in the Office Action mailed July 18, 2006.

It is not believed that an extension of time and/or additional fee(s), including fees for additional claims, are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.